MAY 27-28, 2005

Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association

Executive Notes

Your Provincial Executive Council met in St. John's on May 27 and 28. This issue of *Executive Notes* is a summary of major discussions and decisions that occurred at this meeting.

For further information contact any member of Provincial Executive or the staff person as indicated.

President's Report

The President reported to Provincial Executive on his activities since the last meeting. Besides attending various meetings in his capacity as President, he has also attended the opening ceremonies of Education Week at Crescent Collegiate in Blaketown, the launch of the breakfast program at Swift Current Academy, the Global Campaign for Education event, the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of School Councils AGM in Rocky Harbour, the School Administrators Council AGM in Stephenville, as well as numerous other events representing the Association.

For further information contact Fred Douglas, President.

Association Priorities

Provincial Executive reviewed the Priorities Document and was updated by Administrative Staff on various elements of the document including objectives, timelines and action updates. The five priorities are: negotiating a collective agreement; teacher accountability/assessment/professionalism; curriculum issues; quality of teachers' work life; and membership awareness.

The priorities will be reviewed and updated for the new school year once the new Provincial Executive takes office.

For further information contact Fred Douglas, President, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

Ad Hoc Committee on School Administrators

A meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on School Administrators took place in St. John's in early March. The committee has the mandate to study and make recommendations to Provincial Executive regarding: the structure and role of a School Administrators Council within the NLTA; representatives of school administrators within the NLTA; and NLTA services to school administrators, and the delivery of these services. Several recommendations from the committee were approved by Provincial Executive in the areas of professional development, administrative services, governance and communication.

For further information contact Sean Noah, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on School Administrators, Lloyd Hobbs, Assistant Executive Director, or René Wicks, Professional Development Division.

Ad Hoc Committee on SIC Restructuring

As stated in the January issue of *Executive Notes*, this committee has the mandate to develop new policies, procedures, by-laws and an implementation strategy to enact the motion from Provincial Executive to change the SIC structure to establish three councils: Primary/Elementary, Intermediate, and High School, while allowing for the continued existence of certain specialized councils.

The committee met again in late March and recommended that, where feasible within the NLTA policy on committees, the membership of the Professional Issues and Curriculum Committee will include representative(s) from special interest council provincial executive. This recommendation was approved by Provincial Executive.

For further information contact Bill Chaisson, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on SIC Restructuring, or René Wicks, Professional Development Division.

Electoral Committee

The Electoral Committee met on two occasions in February to deal with the election of President and Vice-President and again in May to review feedback from questionnaires concerning the province-wide vote. The final duty of the committee is to prepare a report to the Provincial Executive on the province-wide election of President and Vice-President which would include any concerns noted during the conducting of the elections, outline any changes in policies and procedures implemented for the election and propose any further recommendations for changes to NLTA by-laws or policies relating to the election process. A final report for review and input by the committee will be prepared for the fall and then presented to Provincial Executive.

For further information contact Doreen Noseworthy, Chair, Electoral Committee, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

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Branch Contact Assignments 2005-07

Executive Member	Branches
Kevin Foley, President	* All Branches
Dana Burridge	Baie Verte Peninsula, Deer Lake, Green Bay, Northern Light, Taylor's Brook
Bill Chaisson	Churchill Falls, Coastal Labrador South, Humber, Labrador West, Lake Melville, Nutak Labradorimi
Lily Cole	Bay d'Espoir, Belleoram-Wreck Cove, Burin-Marystown, Harton, Seagaulher
James Dinn	Bell Island, St. John's Centre, St. Mary's Bay, Waterford Valley
Dean Ingram	Clarenbridge, Fogo Island, Ganova, St. Brendan's, Upper Trinity South
Jackie Maloney	GranForLine, Hamilton Sound, Rushoon-Terrenceville, Trinity-Deadman's Bay
Edward Moore	Baccalieu, Bay Roberts, Carbonear, Notre Dame, Placentia
Sean Noah	Conception Bay Centre, Conception Bay South, Exploits Valley, Marconi, Southern Shore
Wayne Park	Belle Mer, Ingornachoix, Long Range, Table Mountain
Paul Pinsent	Appalachia, Burgeo, Port aux Basques, Rameaux
Jeanne Williams	Aurora, Bremco, Landfall, Trinity, T. Bay

* The President (and, in his absence, the Vice-President) will also be an alternate for visitation to any branch if the scheduled contact person is unavailable.

Business from Standing Committees

Communications / Political Action

- The proposed changes to the policies on Communications, Publications, Printing, Public Relations, Political Action, Education Week, and Release of Membership Information were approved by Provincial Executive.
- The cost of advertising in *The Bulletin* will be re-evaluated with the intent to increase the cost and to include options for advertisers to advertise only in the printed version or a combined cost of advertising on the website as well as in print.
- The number of copies of *The Bulletin* sent to schools in future will be one per every two teachers with a provision for extra copies upon request.
- The theme for Education Week 2006 will be "Education Week: Celebrate and Participate • Semaine de l'éducation: célébration et participation".

For further information contact Marilyn Bennett, Chair, Communications/Political Action Committee, or Lesley-Ann Browne, Communications Division.

Equity Issues in Education Committee

The proposed policy on Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation was accepted by Provincial Executive.

For further information contact Fred Wood, Chair, Equity Issues in Education Committee, or Beverley Park, Professional Development Division.

Table Officers

- The NLTA has requested that the Minister of Education rescind his decision to set school opening on September 2, 2005 and to revert to the original opening of the Tuesday following Labour Day for the 2005-06 school year.
- The NLTA will conduct a survey of the membership in the fall of 2005 to determine their wishes regarding the opening and closing dates of the school year.
- The members of the Negotiating Team for the upcoming provincial contract negotiations will be Sean Noah (Chair), Mary Abbass, Dana Burridge, Leo Freeborn, Barbara Palmer, Ethel Park, Ford Rice, Lloyd Hobbs (NLTA staff) and Perry Downey (NLTA staff).
- The members of the Group Insurance Trustees for 2005-06 will be Bill Chaisson (Chair), Dean Ingram, Linda Bailet, Tina Ryan, Melanie Kavanagh, Darryn Cramm and Don Case.
- The opening proposals for the upcoming Labrador West negotiations were approved.
- The NLTA will nominate Kevin Foley to the CTF Ad Hoc Committee on CTF-CMEC Relations.
- The NLTA will nominate Lily Cole to the CTF Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Human Rights.
- A cash award to accompany the NLTA medal will be set at $500.

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- A draft process for an internal review of the NLTA programs and services will be prepared for the September Table Officers' meeting.
- The Ad Hoc Committee on SIC Restructuring will remain in place for 2005-06 to complete its mandate re the development of policy and procedures for the new council structure.

For further information contact Fred Douglas, President, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

Membership Benefits and Services Committee

The report of the Membership Benefits and Services Committee on Branch Structure and Operations will be considered in the process of the internal/external review of the operation of the NLTA.

For further information contact Sean Noah, Chair, Membership Benefits and Services Committee, Stefanie Tuff, Benefits and Economic Services Division, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

Discussion Topics

The following topics were reviewed by Provincial Executive for comment, actioning, or further discussion: holiday schedule; by-laws of the Southern Shore Branch; Labrador West negotiations; reference checks by school districts; and three-week pay period gain.

For further information contact Fred Douglas, President.

Other Business

- The dates for Provincial Executive meetings in 2005-06 are as follows: September 23 and 24; November 24 (followed by Joint Council on November 25 and 26); January 27 and 28; March 30 (followed by Joint Council on March 31 and April 1); and June 9 and 10.
- An Ad Hoc Committee on Substitute Teachers, consisting of substitute teachers, will be established to deal with issues relating to substitutes.

For further information contact Kevin Foley, President-Elect, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Provincial Executive is scheduled for **September 24-25, 2005**.

For further information contact Kevin Foley, President-Elect, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.